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Winona State University

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THE **POWER** OF *experience*



INSIDE **WSU Homecoming 2018:**
A Warrior Through Time



Above: WSU celebrated with more than 1,000 students as they graduated from the University to take the next steps in their lives and careers.

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This fall, the WSU Foundation rolls out the public phase of fundraising for three university-wide initiatives:



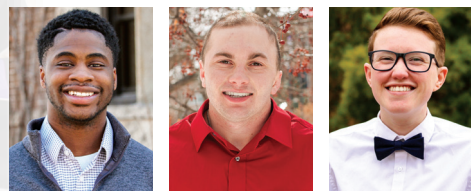
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This is WSU

Read inspiring stories of our students, faculty, staff and alumni who exemplify WSU's mission of improving our world.

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HOMEcoming 2018

Join us for our biggest alumni gathering of the year!

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Currents

The Winona State University Magazine

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@WinonaStateU

Current News

Education Village Updates

Groundbreaking

The next phase of the Education Village project is officially underway, with a ceremonial groundbreaking taking place at the end of April 2018. The two-year project will create a spectrum of learning environments to prepare education majors for real-world educational settings, ranging from traditional classrooms with blackboards to advanced, technology-enabled active-learning classrooms, STEM labs, maker spaces, and special-education classrooms. The 100,000-square-foot mini-campus will also include lab spaces designed with observation areas and accommodations for WSU students and faculty to interact with preschool to high school-aged students and their teachers, along with specialized areas for assistive/adaptive learning. In all, there will be 18 dedicated learning spaces serving students and faculty in STEM, communications, health, art, music, social studies, language, international education, physical education, and special education programs.



Dr. Donna J. Helble

The Legacy of Dr. Donna J. Helble

Dr. Donna J. Helble, the late professor emerita who passed away in March 2017, leaves behind a lasting legacy at Winona State. She lived her life as a champion and advocate for education, spending more than 16 years as an elementary teacher in Winona and 24 years in higher education as a professor of education. As a Trustee on the

WSU Foundation Board and co-chair of the WSU Foundation Education Village Task Force, she was a tireless advocate for the project.



To honor the late Dr. Helble, WSU recently announced that the former Wabasha Hall, named for the city street on which it resides, will be newly named Dr. Donna J. Helble Hall.

Her legacy will also be cemented through the creation of the Dr. Donna J. Helble Education Village Endowment, made possible by a legacy estate gift of nearly \$2.5 million. The endowment will support elementary education (K-8) teacher-training preparation and programming in WSU's College of Education.

To watch the progress of Education Village, check out the live construction video feed at wsu.mn/Ed-Construction.

New Programs Announced



Doctorate of Nursing Practice Program

WSU will begin offering a **Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Baccalaureate to Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program**. The 73-credit program includes graduate nursing core courses, PMHNP role courses, clinical experiences in one's community, and a DNP clinical project. Courses are offered with the option of face-to-face classes or primarily online. Upon completion, students will be prepared to take the PMHNP certification exam. WSU continues to offer a PMHNP Graduate Certificate Program for those who already hold an advance practice RN certification.

Healthcare Leadership & Administration

This fall, WSU expands its Bachelor of Applied Science in Healthcare Leadership & Administration program to offer a new **HLA Health & Wellness Management** track option, available for current associate degree holders without previous or current professional experience. This new program option joins the original program track, both of which are offered entirely online.



WarriorThon 2018

WSU student organization Warriors For The Kids hosted WarriorThon 2018 on campus this past February. The 3rd annual dance marathon event raised over \$11,000 for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at Gundersen Health

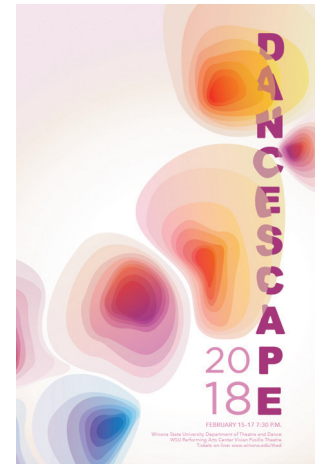
Systems. Participants stayed standing for the entire 8-hour event to symbolize the fight against childhood illnesses. Since first holding the event in 2016, the group has raised over \$31,000 total for local children and families.



New Bike Repair Stands

In spring 2018, WSU installed three new bike stands on campus, which include repair tools and bike pumps, with the ability to accommodate all kinds of bikes. One stand is located on each of WSU's Winona campuses:

Main Campus (across from the Science Laboratory Center), West Campus, and East Lake Terrace. All three stations are free and available to use by students and community members.



Dancescape

WSU's 28th annual Dancescape performance was held in February 2018, featuring 14 original dance pieces, most of which were choreographed and performed by WSU students. Additional pieces were created by faculty and guest choreographers, including "Dark Ecology," by internationally known dance company BodyCartography Project, along with WSU students, during a two-week visit.

JED Campus

WSU has been selected

to join the JED Campus program, allowing the university to expand mental health support on campus. An initiative of The JED Foundation, JED Campus is designed to guide schools through a collaborative process of comprehensive systems, program and policy development with customized support to build upon existing student mental health, substance abuse and suicide prevention efforts. The four-year strategic partnership kicked off August 1, 2018.



2018 Clute International Conference

In April 2018, WSU's Leadership Education graduate program sent a contingent of two alumni and two students, along with faculty members, to the 2018 Clute International Conference in Washington, D.C. Academic research was presented by alumni **Chris Hahn '17** and **Carson Perry '14, '17**, and students **Austin Opfer '16, '18** and **Jeff Thompson '16, '18**. Hahn and Perry also served as session chairs, with Hahn serving as keynote speaker as well. The Clute Institute publishes and promotes leading research in multiple disciplines from all over the world; representatives from higher education institutions from over 22 countries attended this year's conference.



Dr. Julie M. Anderson

New Dean of College of Nursing & Health Sciences

Dr. Julie M. Anderson was announced as the new dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, beginning her post July 1, 2018. Anderson previously served as dean and professor in the School of Nursing at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, Minn. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing, her Master of Science in Parent/Child Nursing, and her Ph.D. in Education, Research Methodologies, Educational Foundations and Research from the University of North Dakota-Grand Forks.

Dr. Barry Peratt Receives MAA Distinguished Teacher Award

WSU Mathematics Professor **Barry Peratt** has received the 2018 Distinguished Teaching of University Mathematics Award from the North Central Section of the Mathematical



Dr. Barry Peratt

Association of America. Aside from his interactive teaching approach in the classroom, Peratt has contributed to the field of mathematics teaching by collaborating on writing curriculum modular units for the Monterey Institute for Technology in Education, publishing articles on Topology, presenting at conferences, and working with students on undergraduate research projects.

Faculty of the Year

For the second year in a row, Assistant Professor of Sociology **Craig Upright** has been voted by Winona State students as the Professor of the Year.



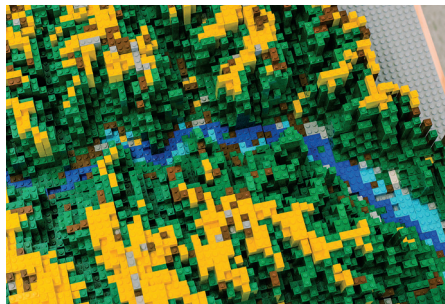
Dr. Craig Upright

"I love teaching because it provides me with the opportunity to work every day with so many thoughtful and engaged young scholars," said Upright. "I'm so pleased with their efforts to better understand the social world we live in." Upright has been teaching at WSU since 2011, receiving his bachelor's degree in mathematics and English literature from St. Olaf College and Ph.D. in sociology from Princeton University.



The Whitewater Watershed – “Legotized”

Assistant Professor **Dylan Blumentritt**, of WSU’s Geoscience Department, was involved in a project to build a scaled, 3D topographic model of the Whitewater watershed in spring 2018. The project, spearheaded by Allison Bender of the Minnesota GreenCorps through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and in conjunction with Whitewater State Park, involved Blumentritt and WSU students mapping the watershed, through GIS software, using a digital elevation model and land use layers. The map was then given to Lego experts from the Twin Cities who “Legotized” it and built step-by-step instructions on how to build the model. After months of planning and a community Lego drive, the model was constructed with the help of all those involved as well as community members. The model will primarily reside at Whitewater State Park, and also travel around the region, visiting libraries, county fairs, farmers markets, and other events to help people learn about watersheds.



To watch a time-lapse video of the entire construction process, filmed by WSU student **Andrew Williams '20**, visit blogs.winona.edu/alumni.

Steven Blue – CEO in Residence at WSU

Steven L. Blue, President & CEO of Miller Ingenuity, was named WSU College of Business’ first CEO in Residence. Blue is an internationally-recognized expert on leading change and business transformation, regularly appearing in various media outlets and authoring four highly-acclaimed books. In his role, Blue will conduct workshops, hold monthly office hours with students, and meet regularly with student clubs and faculty members.



Steven L. Blue



University Theme – Resilience

Each year, WSU partners with the Winona community around a year-long theme to bring faculty, staff, students and community members to the table. This year’s theme, “Resilience,” centers on the fact that all humans go through stressful and difficult changes as they grow and develop, experiencing setbacks along the way. Being able to rebound and adapt well in the face of adversity is a skill that helps individuals, families, organizations and communities persist and even thrive amidst disruptions and stress. Through the theme of Resilience, WSU hopes to engage the entire community in efforts to explore and incorporate resilience in conversation, curriculum and programs in order to maximize the growth, development and optimal functioning of all.



THE POWER OF





experience

It can change everything. An experiential education can change the course of a student's life. Collaboration can change organizations and careers. State-of-the-art spaces can change what is created. And an inviting space to gather and celebrate can change a community.

This fall, the WSU Foundation rolls out the public phase of fundraising for three university-wide initiatives: The College of Business Engaged Learning Endowment, The Laird Norton Center for Art & Design, and The WSU Stadium Renovation. Keep reading to explore how WSU is creating powerful experiences, and how you can get involved.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ENGAGED LEARNING ENDOWMENT

*T*he most valuable resource for any business is human talent, and the most powerful investment in that resource begins with education. But the world of academia differs greatly from the world of business, and it can be challenging for students to make the transition from a traditional classroom to their career. How can we better prepare them to succeed?

Experience is the key to that preparation, and WSU's College of Business is focusing its efforts on delivering those experiences. The vision is to provide each and every student with unique, collaborative and immersive learning experiences that will allow them to better connect theory to practice, and as a result, give WSU students a competitive edge in the business careers that await them.

In order to offer those powerful experiences, resources and support are needed – and the College of Business Engaged Learning Endowment is being created to do just that. With the help of our donors, we will be able to provide **sustainable** support for student, faculty and business collaborations that will lead to authentic and practical learning experiences for all involved.

“What this does is invests in the youth that are going to be our future. They’re gaining real world experience, they’re understanding what these business professionals are doing on a day-to-day basis, and they’re really putting themselves in their shoes to see what they want to do. It’s better preparing them for graduation as well as being a professional.”

— Mukosa Namuninia '15

THE NUMBERS

\$1M
GOAL

\$640k
RAISED

64%
TO GOAL

1,304
STUDENTS IN
THE COLLEGE
OF BUSINESS

OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

- Internships, practicums and job shadowing
- Sales competitions
- Course-embedded experiential projects
- Networking opportunities
- Consulting projects
- Entrepreneurial skill development, showcases and competitions
- Financial literacy and investment events
- Project-based training
- Student and faculty immersion opportunities
- Leadership opportunities
- Focused company day experiences and activities
- International and intercultural showcases
- Academic service learning
- Knowledge transfer collaborations

“Engaged learning is important because it takes what you have learned through a textbook or within a test and applies it. When I was on the sales team, I took the content I was learning in class and it allowed me to learn exactly how to apply it — how do I use my body language, my tone, the mood of my conversation to engage that sale and get it closed — something that I couldn’t get within just a classroom.”

— Momin Choudhry '16



WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Business

CREATE YOUR MORE®

“What we’re doing is looking at building in ways for students to have internships, experiences, real world case application. We want them to walk out of Winona State and be able to say ‘I have experience and a degree, even though I’m just starting.’”

— Dr. Jana Craft, Associate Professor of Business Administration and Human Resource Management

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

GIVE. Gifts of any size are important - and make a real impact at WSU. Larger pledges can be paid over 3-5 years, with gifts of \$1,000+ recognized on a digital display slated for the College of Business Engagement Center. You could also share your time and talent in the classroom, or partner with faculty to create unique engaged learning experiences for WSU students.

CONNECT. Join us for our first **College of Business Alumni Engagement Day** during Homecoming 2018, on Thurs., Oct. 4th. Learn more about how COB students are creating their more while you connect with students, faculty and other alumni. Celebrate the kick-off for the COB Learning Endowment campaign at 5pm in the College of Business Engagement Center.

LEARN. Read more about the project, watch video testimonials about the impact, and stay up-to-date on the College of Business Engaged Learning Endowment campaign at wsu.mn/business-endowment.



LAIRD NORTON CENTER FOR ART & DESIGN

WSU's Art & Design Department is on the cusp of exploding. With that comes the realization that the facilities it's housed in are no longer sufficient. The building was built in the 1960s, has never been updated, and was designated the building in most need of repair across the entire Minnesota State system. Space is another issue – classrooms are being used not only for lectures and labs, but also for study space, production space, storage space and more. In a discipline that thrives off aesthetics, these issues greatly hinder students' educational and creative experiences.

But despite the adversity they face from these elements, our students succeed. 90% of WSU design students earn a job in their field upon graduating. It's a phenomenal program that's poised to take off, if only they had the space to do so. If they have that, can you imagine where they could go, what they could do?

Enter The Laird Norton Center for Art & Design. In this new space, WSU students will experience a makerspace, fabrication lab, state-of-the-art gallery spaces, design studios, classroom spaces and collaborative spaces to work on projects with the local community and industry. Students' educational and creative experiences will change completely – and be brought fully into the 21st century.

The program structure exists, the Laird Norton building exists – but it remains a blank canvas waiting to reach its full potential. With the help of our donors, plus an additional \$2 million the University will contribute to this initiative, Winona State is ready to make The Laird Norton Center for Art & Design the premier visual art and innovation center in Southern Minnesota and provide a level of creative opportunity and experience for our students not available at any other university in the region.

“*I see the Laird Norton Center for Art & Design affecting programming by completely transforming it and providing a contemporary, up-to-date facility for our art and design programs. We'll have spaces to produce things, to print things, to make things, to fabricate things, but we'll also have spaces where students can work after hours, where professors can teach both hands-on activities as well as theory – we're not able to do that right now.*”

— Roger Boulay, Art Gallery & Collections Coordinator

THE NUMBERS

\$3M
GOAL

\$1.12M
RAISED

37%
TO GOAL

90%
OF DESIGN MAJORS
EARN A JOB IN
THE FIELD UPON
GRADUATION



RENOVATIONS TO INCLUDE

- Collaborative, high-tech classrooms
- Fab Lab
- Makerspace
- Project incubator space
- Business incubator space
- Photography studio
- I-Design studios
- Climate-controlled collection storage
- Multiple gallery spaces
- State-of-the-art lecture hall
- New back entrance and facade

For more information on these and other spaces, visit wsu.mn/Laird-Norton.

“As a learning experience, Laird Norton will be phenomenal because not only do you have expanded gallery space, but you have the Makerspace, the Fab Lab, more space for I-Design, graphic design, plus business opportunities and the ability to interact more with the public. That sounds like something that would really set you apart as a student to have those experiences.”

— Holly M. Al-Abad '18

“The benefit for all parties involved is collaboration in the spirit of innovation. We certainly want to have some gallery spaces that we can use to display the collections we have. But we’ve also got some pieces that will be innovative classrooms, we’ve got some pieces that will be creative workspaces where students and entrepreneurs in the community are coming together and designing work, but then they’re turning right around to the production lab and producing that work. These are the things that excite us, the opportunity to go beyond the traditional and have those real hands-on, innovation spaces.”

— Rita Rahoi-Gilchrest, Associate Dean
of the College of Liberal Arts

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

GIVE. Donations of all sizes make an impact to this effort, with gifts of \$1,000+ being recognized on a collective artistic installation planned for the new Laird Norton Center for Art & Design.

CELEBRATE. Join us at the **Laird Norton Arts Gala** on Saturday, October 5, 2018 at 6:30pm in The Laird Norton Center for Art & Design. Explore the space, learn more about the campaign, and participate in a silent auction. You will also take part in various art experiences, including a virtual reality game created by WSU students, and enjoy live music, a photo booth, a caricature artist, and sneak peeks of our current art collection.

LEARN. Read more about the project, watch video testimonials about the impact, and stay up-to-date on The Laird Norton Center for Art & Design campaign at wsu.mn/Laird-Norton.

WSU STADIUM RENOVATION

Fans, athletes, new recruits, community members – each have their own wants and needs in terms of athletic facilities, but all can agree that the current experience at the WSU stadium is less than stellar. Built in the 1930s, the stadium itself has not been renovated since the 1970s – as is evident by the deteriorating conditions found inside.

Capacity is another issue, with only 3,000 seats available. Even though WSU has the third largest student population among its peer institutions, it ranks seventh in stadium capacity. And, even with that limited capacity, there still aren't enough bathrooms and concession stands to serve the game-day crowds. It's not the experience WSU fans deserve.

The planned WSU Stadium Renovation will solve all these issues – maximizing existing space while improving seating, concessions, bathrooms and locker rooms. Fans will enjoy a thrilling game-day experience, athletes will have a place to play with pride, new recruits will witness a playing environment and support system worthy of their interest, and community members will have an updated space to host their own various athletic events.

With the help of our donors, we can truly give our Warriors the home that they deserve.

“The renovation is going to change the atmosphere on Saturdays because – plain and simple – it’s going to bring more people to the stadium. When a big play happens on offense, or we get a big stop on defense, or get a touchdown, the student section is just going to erupt and it’s going to bring an atmosphere that’s going to be unmatched to anybody else in our conference.”

— Lauden Wood '16, Football

THE NUMBERS

\$5M
GOAL

\$500k
RAISED

10%
TO GOAL

3,000
CURRENT CAPACITY

7,000
NEW CAPACITY



PLANNED RENOVATION FEATURES

- Increased seating capacity of 7,000
- Event deck in South End Zone for large groups
- Additional entrances + 360° walkway around stadium
- Improved locker rooms for home and visiting teams
- Video board in South End Zone
- Additional men's, women's and family restrooms
- Multiple concession stands
- WSU apparel shop

“The main focus will be the fan experience and the game-day experience. Right now, you may not be able to find a seat; you’re certainly going to have a long wait in line to use an indoor restroom instead of the porta potties. We’re looking at expanding the seating to what our needs are for attendance at games, and then the rest of it is really amenities for the fans so that they can come to the games and enjoy it.”

— Eric Schoh, Director of Athletics

“A huge factor in recruiting and choosing a place to play soccer comes down to the quality of facilities, and I think that we’re very low in our conference when comparing our facilities to others. By increasing the quality, we’ll be able to compete with other schools and get higher level recruits with better facilities.”

— Mikaella Sabinash '18, Soccer

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

GIVE. Pave the Way and make your mark all at once. Gifts of \$300 to \$2,500 will be recognized with various sized brick pavers leading from the tunnel to the stadium's entrance. Each brick will be customizable, allowing you to add whatever name and message you want to commemorate.

CELEBRATE. Attend home football and select soccer games and cheer on the Warriors this fall — and stop by our booth at the stadium entrance or Game Day Experience events to learn more about the project.

LEARN. Read more about the project, watch video testimonials about the impact, and stay up-to-date on the WSU Stadium Renovation campaign at wsu.mn/Stadium.

Athletic News

NSIC SAAC Leadership Summit

Winona State hosted the 2018 NSIC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) Leadership Summit in May. The event, which is hosted by different institutions each year, welcomed over 70 representatives from all 16 NSIC institutions. In addition to planned activities aimed at building camaraderie, enhancing communication skills and preparing for life after college, the annual event also consists of a community service project. This year, the students, in partnership with WSU's Outdoor Education and Recreation Center, worked to cleanup Sugar Loaf of trash, graffiti and invasive species, followed by an opportunity to learn how to rock climb.



Third Place in 2017-18 NSIC All-Sports Award

Winona State placed third among 16 member institutions in the 2017-18 NSIC All-Sports Award standings, marking the Warriors' second straight third-place finish while competing in just 14 of the conference's 18 sponsored sports. WSU has won the award four times previously, and is one of just four schools to have won it in the award's 19-year history.



Dr. Cyndy (Schubbe) Jones (left)

Jones Inducted into NSIC Hall of Fame

Former WSU softball ace **Dr. Cyndy (Schubbe) Jones '02, '10, '16** was inducted into the 2018 NSIC Hall of Fame in July. Among her many accolades, Jones was the NSIC Pitcher of the Year in both 2001 and 2002, and one of the most dominant pitchers in Warrior history. She was inducted into the Winona State Hall of Fame in 2012. Jones currently serves as an assistant coach for Warrior Softball, working with the pitching staff. In addition to her coaching duties, Jones is an assistant professor in the WSU Nursing Department.



Athletes of the Year: Andrew Spencer (Football) and McKenna Larsen (Softball/Volleyball)

WESPY Awards

Warrior Athletics held its annual WESPY Awards Banquet in May 2018, honoring the accomplishments of WSU student-athletes throughout the last year. Honorees included:

Hometown Heroes

Jorgen Erickson (Football)
Katie Schlegel (Softball)

Highest Team GPA

Women's Tennis (3.79 cumulative GPA)

Warrior Cup: Softball Team

Newcomer of the Year

Allie Pickrain (Women's Basketball)
Kevion Taylor (Men's Basketball)

Student-Athlete of the Year

Raissa Hansen (Track & Field/Cross Country) and
Carter McCauley (Football)

Athletes of the Year

McKenna Larsen (Softball/Volleyball)
Andrew Spencer (Football)

For more information on these awards and the honorees, visit: wsu.mn/wespy-awards



Zach Olstad

NFL Recruits

This past spring saw two WSU football players scouted by NFL teams. Fullback **Zach Olstad '17** was invited to the Buffalo Bills' rookie minicamp, and defensive back **Andrew Spencer** was invited to the Cleveland Browns'. Following the conclusion of the minicamps, Olstad was signed to a free-agent contract with the Bills, making him the first WSU football player to sign an NFL contract since quarterback Brian Wrobel (2006) signed with the Green Bay Packers.



Tamika Tucker

NCAA DII Outdoor Track & Field Championship

Tamika Tucker competed in her first-ever NCAA Division II Outdoor Track & Field Championship in spring 2018. Competing in the long jump, the junior placed ninth and earned Second Team All-America status with a distance of 19' 5 1/4". Prior to nationals, Tucker had already won the 2018 NSIC Indoor Championship and 2018 NSIC Outdoor Championship in the long jump.



Michael Schmitz

NCAA DII Central/Midwest Regional Golf Championship

WSU's **Michael Schmitz** was selected to participate in the 2018 NCAA DII Men's Central/Midwest Regional Golf Championship in spring 2018. He was one of just four central region golfers selected. In the course of the three-day event, Schmitz saved his best for last, firing a four-under par 68 on the last day, which was tied for the best of the day with two other players – the players who finished first and second at the event. He opened with a 79 in the first round and a 78 in the second. He ultimately finished 61st in the field of 108 players with a three-round total of 225 (+9).

Kughn Named New Cross Country Head Coach

Zach Kughn

has been announced as the new men's and women's cross country head coach for the 2018 fall season. He will also serve as an assistant coach for the women's track team. A former Big Sky Conference Champion while attending Montana State University, Kughn most recently served as the graduate assistant coach at Dakota Wesleyan University for the cross country and track teams. While there, he saw the women's team net its highest conference finish in program history and coached the Tigers' first-ever cross country conference champion.



Zach Kughn



Warrior Softball Hosted the 13th NCAA Regional as Top Seed

The Warriors hosted the NCAA Division II Central Regional in May. They entered the tournament as the No. 1-seed after winning the NSIC regular season and postseason title in the same year for the second time in program history, and first time since 2003. Unfortunately, the Warriors fell to Arkansas Tech 4-0, ending their season with an impressive record of 45-7 and a .865 winning percentage — the best in program history.



Rachel Gantz

Gantz Named NSIC Women's Tennis Elite 18 Winner

Rachel Gantz was named the 2018 NSIC Elite 18 Award winner for women's tennis in April. She becomes the fourth Warrior to earn the Elite 18 Award, joining Raissa Hansen (Cross Country 2017), Maria Fruechte (Volleyball 2017) and Tara Roelofs (Women's Basketball 2017). The NSIC Elite 18 Award was first instituted as part of the NSIC 25th Anniversary celebration, being awarded to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade point average participating at the finals site for each of the NSIC's 18 Championships. Gantz, who was a senior majoring in chemistry (pre-med), earned a 3.98 grade point average and owned a 10-4 overall singles record and 11-3 doubles record (with teammate Kendra Kappes) for the season.



This is WSU

In spring 2018, we explored what makes WSU, WSU.

To do so, we went searching for those in our WSU community who are living the mission of improving our world. From students to faculty, staff and alumni, we found inspiring individuals around every corner.

These are their stories. **This is WSU.**



WAHEED KHAN '18

Khan has many credits to his name, including summer 2018 Google intern and founder of the WSU Hackathon.



RACHEL WILLIAMS
BELTER '18



KYLE HAMMER '18



JESSICA
LAVORATA '18



ELIJAH
NORRIS-HOLLIDAY '18

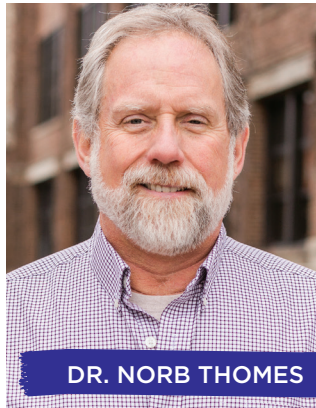


KATIE SCHLEGEL '19

Schlegel is an AVID tutor as well as the VP of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. She is committed to improving our world through education.



JUSTINE
ANDERSON '18



DR. NORB THOMES

Dr. Thomes is WSU's learning services and systems coordinator and has been a pioneer of educational technologies - founding the Mobile Computing Laboratory (McLab) at the University.



CHELSEA HANSON '18

Mustafa is an advocate for multicultural dialogue as well as a Champion of Diversity Award recipient.



REGINA MUSTAFA '18



TANNER
VON RUDEN '18



Read the full stories at blogs.winona.edu/alumni.



JIMMY HICKEY '18



SUPRIYA BHATTA '18

Dr. Wysocki is an assistant professor of education studies and is the driving force behind WSU's Multicultural Education Certificate Program.



DR. NICHOLAS WYSOCKI

Zak is a first-generation college student and scholarship recipient and graduated from WSU this past spring with a degree in Communication Arts and Literature Teaching.



ELLADEE ZAK '18



RYAN HOWE '18



KARLY MALIZIA '18



ADRIENNE TRYAN '18



JACOB STOCK '18

Stock has spent his time at WSU working as a Women's Resource Center volunteer and putting his efforts towards advocating for gender-based violence issues.



MADISON STEFFEN '18



ECHO HUANG '95

Huang is a champion of international students as well as the president and founder of Echo Wealth Management.



BRIAN WALDBILLIG '18



Read the full stories at blogs.winona.edu/alumni.

1940s



Donna (Sinclair) Johnson '48 (Mable, Minn.) turned 90 years old in April 2018, and continues to work as a librarian at the Mabel Public Library. She has worked there since 1994 and says she has no plans to retire. She previously worked for the local school system for 28 years as an elementary school teacher and librarian.

1960s

Gary Anderson '64, '72 (Apple Valley, Minn.) has been retired since 2000. After teaching elementary school for 17 years, he then worked as a media specialist in two different elementary schools for the next 17. One of the many programs he was involved in was a two-camera television studio that he ran with 6th grade students to broadcast the morning news and announcements each day. He has three children and five grandchildren.

1970s

David Urness '76 (North Mankato, Minn.) retired from the Mankato Area Public School District at the end of the 2017-18 school year. He led the orchestra programs at multiple east-side schools for nearly 40 years.

Ronald Pollworth '77 (Fort Smith, Ariz.) has retired from a 40-plus year career in marketing and public relations. He makes his home in Fort Smith, Arkansas and, last fall, published his first novel, "Heartache Along the Cannonball," which is available at [Amazon.com/books](https://www.amazon.com/books). He is currently working on a sequel.



Barb Bickford '79 (Stillwater, Minn.) married **Mike McCarthy '78** in October 2017. Both geology majors, they met while at WSU in 1976 but went their separate ways. They reconnected in 2014 thanks to LinkedIn and classmate Mark Baumbach '78. In April 2018, they travelled to Hawaii to see an active volcano. Although Kilauea's current eruption began a few days after they left, they did manage to see red hot lava before the main crater dropped 1,000 ft. The couple lives in Stillwater, Minnesota, on a glacial outwash overlooking a lake, and would love to hear from WSU classmates.

1980s

Ron Andro '81 (Gibsonia, Pa.) is president and CEO of West Penn Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pa. Holding his BSN, RN, MS and HSM, he has been a nurse and healthcare administrator for the past 37 years. He is married and the father of two daughters, currently in college. He sends his best to his fellow classmates, friends and the University.

Rita (Hughes) Buehler '82 (Kasson, Minn.) was named Kasson-Mantorville's Teacher of the Year. She was honored with a surprise parade through the elementary school – not only for the award, but for her 30-year career in teaching as well. Buehler has taught kindergarten at the school for more than 25 years, retiring at the end of the 2017-18 school year.

Ross Evavold '82 (Saint Augusta, Minn.) has joined the Echo Press as its editor in Alexandria, Minnesota. He previously served as the editor of the Chippewa Herald for more than two decades, which was named best daily in its circulation class four times by the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Timothy Glowczewski '83 (Winona, Minn.), owner of Winona's Lakeview Drive Inn, was honored with Visit Winona's 2018 Partner in Excellence Award. The restaurant celebrated 80 years of serving Winona in spring 2018.

Robert Gardner '85 (St. Paul, Minn.) has joined the law firm of Price, McCluer & Plachecki in Winona. As an associate, Gardner practices in the areas of employment law, family law, personal injury and civil litigation matters.

Theresa (Gartner) Nunemacher '86 (St. Charles, Minn.) has been working as a school social worker for St. Charles Public Schools since 2012.

Eric Kerska '87 (Rochester, Minn.) was named fire chief of the City of Rochester, Minnesota. He has been with the Rochester Fire Department since 1994, serving as battalion chief since 2009.

James Mingus '87 (Fort Leavenworth, Kan.) was announced as the next commanding general of the 82nd Airborne Division. He is currently the director of the Mission Command Center of Excellence at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Class Notes

Katherine (Anderson) Reller '89

(Rochester, Minn.) was appointed senior vice president of quality and interim services for Parisi Healthcare Management in Tempe, Arizona. Reller is a nurse with over 20 years' experience in quality and performance improvement and has served in multiple interim quality leadership and executive roles.

1990s

Chris Fink '90 (Circle Pines, Minn.)

has been named the new athletic director for Irondale High School, part of the Mounds View school district in Minnesota.



Luther Washington '92

(Beckley, W.Va.) was named president of Kalamazoo Valley Community College. He is only the third president in the

college's existence. Washington most recently served as president of New River Community and Technical College in Beckley, West Virginia.

Thomas Brown '93 (Canyon, Texas), head men's basketball coach at West Texas A&M University, was named the Lone Star Conference Coach of the Year and South Central Region Coach of the Year.

Julia (Buchanan) Espe '94 (Clear Lake, Minn.) received the 2018 Kay E. Jacobs Memorial Award from the Minnesota Association of School Administrators. The award recognizes excellent leadership and involvement in MASA and other educational organizations by an administrator who is a woman. Espe is currently superintendent of Princeton Public Schools and previously served as principal of Austin High School.

Scott Mertes '94 (Midland, Mich.) has been selected as the vice president of outreach and advancement at Mid Michigan Community College. He has been with the college since 2005 when he started in the student services division before becoming the dean of liberal arts in 2015.



Bradley Sawatzke '94

(Annandale, Minn.) was appointed CEO of Energy Northwest in April 2018, after serving for a brief period as interim CEO. He previously served

as Chief Operating Officer/Chief Nuclear Officer.

Jennifer Froh '96 (Camp Douglas, Wis.) was selected as a Champion in Women's Health by the Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation. She has worked for the Juneau County Health Department for 20 years, currently coordinating the Wisconsin Well Woman Program and working with the Women, Infants and Children program for Juneau and Adams Counties.

Rebecca Davis '98 (Eau Claire, Wis.) retired as the Chippewa Falls High School principal after 20 years in administration and nearly three decades in education.



Robert Biesterfeld '99

(Chanhassen, Minn.) was promoted to Chief Operating Officer with C.H. Robinson Worldwide. He has been with the

company for 19 years, previously serving as President of the North American surface transportation, the company's largest division.

Rocky Peterson '99 (Winona, Minn.) retired in spring 2018 as a fourth grade teacher at Washington-Kosciusko Elementary School and as the Winona Senior High School varsity basketball coach.

2000s

Jake Peterson '02 (Winona, Minn.) joined the Webb Company as the vice president of sales and marketing.

Jill Rollie '03 (Austin, Minn.) was named the new principal of Woodson Kindergarten Center in Austin, Minnesota. She previously served as a continuous improvement specialist at IJ Holton Intermediate School and taught language arts at Ellis Middle School.

William Sabel '05 (Andover, Minn.) joined the sales team at Motion Controls Robotics, Inc (MCRI) as a Sales Estimator and Quote Writer.

Emily (Lorenz) Krowiorz '07

(Rochester, Minn.) is working at the Area Agency on Aging. She married Matt Krowiorz in 2015 and has two children, Matthew (10) and Ava (8).



Sarah Brechtel '08

(Milton, Wis.) received the 2018 Educator of the Year award for the Milton School District by Milton Area Chamber of Commerce. She is

currently an English teacher at Milton High School.

Kira Stearns '08 (Brunswick, Ga.) currently works as a sea turtle educator at the Georgia Sea Turtle Center in Jekyll Island, Georgia.

Samantha Pepprock '09 (Muskegon, Mich.) joined the law firm of Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge as an associate in their Muskegon, Michigan office. Pepprock practices in the areas of estate planning, business, real estate and immigration law.



Send Us the News

Do you have a new job? Spouse? Child? Award? Achievement?

Submit a class note – it's easy!

wsu.mn/class-notes

Class Notes

Bo Ties '09 (Iowa City, Iowa) completed a DMA in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Iowa.

2010s

Katherine Boone '10 (Rochester, Minn.) began working for the Post Bulletin in Rochester as a sales coordinator.



Jillian (Freeman) Larson '10 (Albert Lea, Minn.) married Randy Larson in January 2018. She is currently a second grade teacher at NRHEG.

Nicholas Antony '10 (Grand Island, Neb.) has been working at Ingersoll Rand (Trane and Thermo King) since 2014.



Stephanie (Smith) McDonald '10 (Neenah, Wis.) celebrated the birth of her second son, Benson, on April 1. Big brother Nolan (2 years), couldn't be more excited!

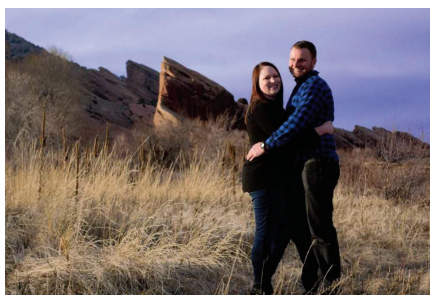
Eileen Moeller '10 (Winona, Minn.) is working as the Marketing and Sales Director for the Great River Shakespeare Festival in Winona, Minnesota.

Molly (McCurdy) McCabe '11 (Rosemount, Minn.) recently accepted a position as a product marketer for

Thompson Reuters in Eagan, Minnesota. **Hannah Rinken '11** (Waterloo, Iowa) is currently living in Iowa, working with Athletico Physical Therapy as their Athletic Training Manager for Iowa.

Shannon Spahr '11 (Winona, Minn.) has been promoted to Vice President/Controller at Merchants Bank. She has been with Merchants since 2010, most recently working as the controller since 2015. After graduating from WSU, she received her Master of Accountancy from Stetson University in 2012 and became a CPA in 2015.

Nick Cusick '12 & Lily Wellenstein '12 (St. Paul, Minn.) were married August 4th, 2018 at Lutsen Resort on Lake Superior.



Meredith Dietz '12 (Arvada, Colo.) married Cody Akason on May 6, 2018. She is currently employed as a Spanish teacher at Ken Caryl Middle School in Littleton, Colorado.

Matthew Kollmer '12 (Afton, Minn.) graduated in May of 2017 from UNLV with an MFA in Creative Writing. His is teaching at UNLV and employed as a sales representative for Bauman Rare Books in Las Vegas.

Bryan Lindquist '12 (Carlton, Minn.) competed in the Boston Marathon in April 2018.

Richard Maki '12 (Baraboo, Wis.) joined the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as a conservation warden for Sauk County. He previously worked as a patrol officer in Lewiston, Minnesota, and as a boat patrol officer for Winona County, where he also provided search and rescue response.

Aaron Repinski '12 (Winona, Minn.) received the People's Choice Award

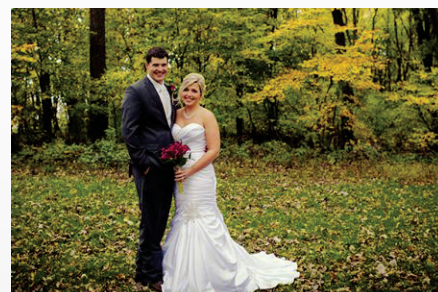
and the Tourism Rock Star Award for his Winona Tour Boat Company during Visit Winona's 2018 Tourism Celebration.



Lauren Barker '13 (Madison, Wis.) is directing a feature film, a thriller titled *Cohabitation*, about a former paramedic coping with PTSD and a roommate with a long-held vendetta against medical personnel. Barker wrote the screenplay and will be producing it independently. Updates on the film's progress can be found at facebook.com/cohabitation18 and twitter.com/cohabitation18.

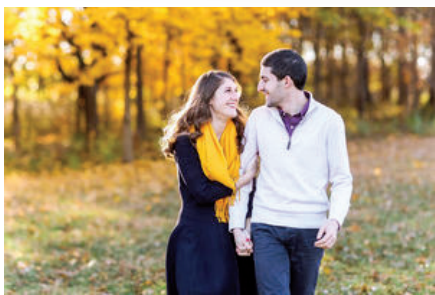


Lindsey (Mitchener) Klindworth '13 (Red Wing, Minn.) married Jacob Klindworth in June 2018. She is currently employed by Winona County Community Services.



Lauren (Nelson) Lau '13 (Albert Lea, Minn.) married Dennis Lau III in October 2017, in Albert Lea, Minnesota. She currently works as an English as a Second Language teacher.

Class Notes

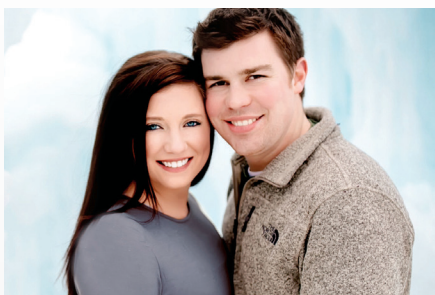


Lior Shragg '13 (Chicago, Ill.) is engaged to Rebecca Leah Singer. After receiving his bachelor's degree from WSU, he earned a Master of Music from the University of Arizona and is currently a Ph.D. candidate in ethnomusicology at Ohio University. An October 2018 wedding is planned.

Parker Ask '14 (Rochester, Minn.) joined the Post Bulletin in Rochester, Minnesota as a systems administrator in June 2018.



Kaley Jacobson '14 (Watertown, Wis.) has been teaching English at Jefferson High School in Jefferson, Wisconsin for the past year. She will now take on head coaching duties for both the girls soccer and volleyball programs.



Heather (Johnson) Lammers '14 (New Prague, Minn.) married Beau Gerard Lammers in June 2018. She is currently employed at Heather Anne Photography.



Melissa (Femrite) Toso '14 (Duluth, Minn.) recently married Samuel Toso. She graduated from The College of St. Scholastica's Master of Science Occupational Therapy program. She is currently working at St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth, Minnesota focusing on acute care and inpatient rehab.

Gabriel Velez '14 (Sunnyvale, Calif.), now an MD/PhD student at the University of Iowa, was lead author on a paper recently published which demonstrated the potential of treating rare and complex eye conditions by matching existing drugs with proteins that are abnormally expressed in the eyes of individual patients.

Derek Berggren '15 (Browerville, Minn.) joined the Coon Rapids Police Department as its newest officer in May 2018. He had been hired by the department in late December 2017 as a trainee officer and since then has completed the department's field training program.



Alex '15 and Kourtney (Kavajecz) Hoff '15 (Rochester, Minn.) were married in March 2018.

Connor Meers '15 (Cold Spring, Minn.) received a Master of Social Work from St. Cloud State University in 2017. He was accepted into the Peace Corps in January 2018, and is currently on a two-year assignment in Colombia.

Ashley Walker '15 (Shakopee, Minn.) was inducted into the Minnesota

Fastpitch Coaches Association Hall of Fame in June 2018.



Derek Bodmer '16 (Caledonia, Minn.) attended Oklahoma State University working on his master's in International Trade and Development. In September 2017 he started a 27-month volunteer program with the Peace Corps in Senegal, Africa, as an agricultural specialist.



Shane Carlson '16 (Bethel, Minn.) started as a reporter for the Union-Times in Princeton, Minnesota. He most recently worked as a columnist and story writer for the

Midwest Racing Connection. He also serves as an Army reservist and chaplain's assistant, reporting to Battle Assembly once a month at Fort Snelling.



Samantha Stokes '16 (Red Wing, Minn.) is engaged to David Bronson Keller. Having received her bachelor's degree in nursing, Stokes is currently employed at Mayo

Clinic Health System in Red Wing. An August 2018 wedding was planned.

Grant Bodmer '17 (Eden Prairie, Minn.) is currently working for LA Fitness in the Twin Cities as an operations manager.



Alivia Lind '17 (Hampton, Minn.) is engaged to Kegan Markwardt. She currently works as a registered nurse at United Hospital in St. Paul, Minnesota. An

October 2018 wedding is planned.

In Memoriam

1940s

Elizabeth (Curren) Wolf '41 (Faribault, Minn.) passed away May 5, 2018.

1950s

Ervin Schmidt '50 (Rochester, Minn.) passed away February 26, 2018.

Russell Lund '57 (Andover, Wis.) passed away May 13, 2018.

Gene McDermott '59 (Faribault, Minn.) passed away February 28, 2018.

Joseph Schiltz '59 (Bloomington, Minn.) passed away January 20, 2018.

1960s

Thomas Brown '62 (Buffalo City, Wis.) passed away February 28, 2018.

Sylvia (Martin) Bruegger '63 (Wabasha, Minn.) passed away June 6, 2018.

Donald Hemming '65 (Tucson, Ariz.) passed away March 4, 2018.

Ivadean (Groen) Isensee '65 (Stewartville, Minn.) passed away February 12, 2018.

Robert Blahnik '67 (Spring Valley, Minn.) passed away April 9, 2018.

Kay (Woodward) Burt '67 (Lewiston, Minn.) passed away May 3, 2018.

Gary Baxter '68 (Montfort, Wis.) passed away February 26, 2018.

Gerald Dahling '68 (Rosemount, Minn.) passed away April 5, 2018.

Thomas Fishbaugher '68 (Fillmore County, Minn.) passed away March 11, 2018.

Richard Root '68 (Hastings, Minn.) passed away February 18, 2018.

1970s

Phyllis Hoppe '71 (Winona, Minn.) passed away May 31, 2018.

John Philo '71 (Rochester, Minn.) passed away March 17, 2018.

Carl Sarich '71 (Mountain Iron, Minn.) passed away June 25, 2018.

Lois (Dubbels) Bergman '76 (Hinkley, Minn.) passed away April 22, 2018.

Robert Dashow '77 (Rochester, Minn.) passed away February 6, 2018.

Richard Kraus '78 (Edina, Minn.) passed away February 21, 2018.

Catherine (Master) Nichols '78 (Lake City, Minn.) passed away July 7, 2018.

Nola (Blencoe) Olson '79 (Taylor, Wis.) passed away March 17, 2016.

1980s

Kristen Harpel-Huhner '82 (New Prague, Minn.) passed away June 9, 2018.

Linette (Stoen) Ritter '84 (Rushford, Minn.) passed away March 1, 2018.

Dennis Etbauer '86 (Rochester, Minn.) passed away January 14, 2018.

1990s

Rachel Hill-Smith '97 (Johnson Creek, Wis.) passed away February 21, 2018.

John Johnson '97 (Rochester, Minn.) passed away March 1, 2018.

John Mason '98 (Crystal Lake, Ill.) passed away April 12, 2018.

2000s

Rebecca (Soppa) Schlessner '01 (Arcadia, Wis.) passed away April 25, 2018.

Daryn Allen '06 (Blue Mounds, Wis.) passed away March 14, 2018.

Faculty/Staff

Glen Buege (Winona, Minn.) passed away February 14, 2018.

Shirley (Wermager) Eiken '63 (Winona, Minn.) passed away May 28, 2018.

Dianne Morrison (Winona, Minn.) passed away May 28, 2018.

Charles Sorensen (Longwood, Fla.) passed away February 23, 2018.

Students

Derek Harms (Barrington, Ill.) passed away April 8, 2018.

For full obituaries, please visit blogs.winona.edu/alumni.





EVENTS HOMECOMING 2018 OCTOBER 4-7

VIRTUAL HOMECOMING 2018 #WSUHOCO18



Can't make it home this October? You can still join us for WSU's Virtual Homecoming and follow the celebration live via Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, and Facebook.

All returning alumni are encouraged to post pics and tweets of the sights and experiences of Homecoming using the hashtag **#wsuhoco18**.

Follow the hashtag or follow **@WinonaStateU** to see retweeted highlights, video clips and photos from the **#wsuhoco18** stream.

And don't forget to join the conversation!

 twitter.com/WinonaStateU

 [instagram.com/WinonaStateU](https://www.instagram.com/WinonaStateU)

 **WinonaStateU** on Snapchat

 **WinonaStateU** on Facebook

— THURSDAY, OCT. 4th —

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Various Times Throughout the Day	College of Business Alumni Engagement Day	Various Campus Locations

— FRIDAY, OCT. 5th —

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Various Times	Alumni College Speaker Series (Contact the alumni office to speak to a WSU class!)	Various Campus Locations
12pm	Pep Fest	WSU Courtyard
12:30-2:30pm	Enduring Flame Luncheon—Celebrating the class of 1968 \$15 per person (if not class of 1968 or a guest of 1968 attendee)	Purple Rooms Kryzsko Commons
2pm	WSU Women's Soccer Game vs. Augustana University	Altra Federal Credit Union Stadium
3-4pm	Cal Fremling River Boat Cruise Pre-Registration Required, \$8 per person	Depart from Levee Park
5-8pm	Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet , \$20 per person	Talbot Gym
7pm	WSU Women's Volleyball Game vs. Minnesota State Univ.-Moorhead	McCown Gym
7:30pm	All WSU Football Players Reunion	The Plaza Hotel
8pm	All WSU Wrestling Alumni Reunion	The Green Mill

11TH ANNUAL WARRIOR WADDLE

5K (3.1 miles) Run,
Walk, or Waddle



SATURDAY
OCTOBER 6, 2018

START TIME
8am

REGISTER ONLINE:
wsu.mn/hoco2018-events

RACE DAY REGISTRATION:
7am at Lake Lodge (foot of Main
Street and Lake Boulevard)

• Various registration options and
fees are available.

• Chip timing provided by Anderson
Race Management at start and finish.

• Any questions? Contact WSU
Athletics at 507.457.5210 or
Kathy Hovell at 507.454.4149 or
khovell@hbcu.com

BE THERE!!!

Proceeds support WSU Women's Track & Field and Cross Country scholarships

— SATURDAY, OCT. 6th —

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
8am	11th Annual Warrior Waddle 5K Pre-Registration Recommended	East Lake Winona
8:30-9:30am	Complimentary Homecoming Breakfast	Alumni House
10am	Homecoming Parade	Huff Street
11am-1pm	Sheehan Hall 50th Birthday Party Reception and Tours	Sheehan Hall
11am-2pm	Warrior Game Day Experience Food trucks, give-aways, contests, Jr. Warrior Zone, inflatables	Johnson Street
12-1pm	Cal Fremling River Boat Cruise Pre-Registration Required, \$8 per person	Depart from Levee Park
2pm	WSU Football Game vs. Univ. of Mary	Altra Federal Credit Union Stadium
5pm	WSU Women's Volleyball Game vs. Northern State University	McCown Gym
5pm	All WSU Wrestling Alumni Reunion (Part II)	The Green Mill
6:30-9pm	Distinguished Alumni Awards Social, Dinner and Program, \$30 per person	Tau Center Rotunda

— SUNDAY, OCT. 7th —

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
1pm	WSU Women's Soccer Game vs. Wayne State College	Altra Federal Credit Union Stadium

FOR INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER FOR THESE EVENTS:

ONLINE: wsu.mn/hoco2018-events TOLL FREE: 1.800.342.5978 ext. 5027 EMAIL: alumni@winona.edu

FOOTBALL, SOCCER AND VOLLEYBALL TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT:
wsu.mn/athletic-tickets



Each year at Homecoming, Winona State University and the Alumni Society recognize individuals for their outstanding commitment to the University, its mission, and to improving our world.

-Distinguished Young Alumni-

Jordan Henrickson '14

After receiving his BA in education from WSU, **Henrickson** was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Army. In 2016, he received his master's degree in strategic security and counterterrorism from George Washington University. While at WSU, Henrickson was captain of the cross country team, an ROTC Cadet Mentor, served as a Big Brother and worked as a certified emergency medical technician. Thus far in his military career, he is the youngest officer to receive the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal (twice) in his unit at Fort Bliss, Texas. He has also received the Army Commendation Medal for saving a civilian's life in 2015 and the Army Achievement Medal for elite physical fitness. Recognized by the Battalion, Brigade, and Division Commanders for his excellence and outstanding service to the Army, Henrickson continues to be engaged in his community, serving as a Big Brother, working at animal shelters, and starting a weather balloon program at an area middle school to encourage students' interest in science and engineering.



Jordan Henrickson

-Distinguished Faculty/Staff-

Dr. Joyati Debnath

Debnath, professor in WSU's department of mathematics and statistics, has been teaching at the University since 1989. She received her master's degree in pure mathematics in 1985, and Ph.D. in applied mathematics in 1988, both from Iowa State University. She has received numerous honors and awards, including the Best Teaching Award from Iowa State University in 1987 and the Outstanding Woman of Education Award in 1993. Nominated for the Distinguished Faculty/Staff award by her students, Dr. Debnath has been an advocate and mentor for female mathematicians. Her research interests are in the areas of integral transform theory, matrices and graph theory. She is the author or co-author on over 50 publications, has presented at numerous national and international conferences, and has received many grants for her work. Additionally, she has served as the faculty director of the WSU Freshman Orientation Program, coordinated WSU's Distinguished Lecture Series in Mathematics, and plays an active role in many community organizations, such as the YMCA, Parents of the Winona Area Catholic Schools Association and Habitat for Humanity. She is also a frequent judge at the Minnesota State Science Fair.



Dr. Joyati Debnath

WINONA
STATE UNIVERSITY
Alumni & Friends

If you are interested in nominating a deserving individual, please visit winona.edu/alumni/awards.asp.



-Hall of Fame-

The WSU Athletic Hall of Fame recognizes those who have shown distinctive and exceptional ability as an athlete and in their lives on campus and post-graduation.

Bria Magnuson '07

Magnuson set and still owns the school record for pole vault in both the indoor and outdoor seasons. She was a two-time NCAA Division II All-American in pole vault and was a member of the three Warrior NSIC Championship teams – 2005 Indoor, 2005 Outdoor and 2006 Indoor. Magnuson placed eighth individually at the 2006 NCAA DII Outdoor Championships in pole vault. Her third-place finish at the 2007 NCAA DII Indoor Championships helped lead the Warriors to a 10th-place team finish.

Ernest Middleton '77

Middleton owned a 105-21 career record at 190 lbs. as a Winona State wrestler. He was a three-time NAIA All-American, a three-time NIC Conference Champion and the NIC runner-up as a freshman. He placed fourth, third and second (national runner-up), respectively, in each of his final three seasons at the NAIA National Championships. Middleton was a three-time Winona State team MVP and helped lead the Warriors to NIC team runner-up finishes in 1974 and 1976.

Karen Ries '73

Ries was a standout three-sport student-athlete in her Winona State Warrior career. She was a two-year captain of the women's basketball team and named team MVP in 1972 and 1973. Ries also earned team MVP honors in softball (1973) and volleyball (1972).

Deric Sieck

Sieck was a two-time NSIC Defensive Player of the Year for the Warrior football team. He was a 2001 Football Gazette All-American, and a 2002 and 2003 Daktronics First Team All-American. Sieck helped lead Winona State to the postseason all four of his years, including the Mineral Water Bowl in 2000 and 2002. Sieck and the Warriors reached the NCAA Playoffs in 2001 and 2003, the latter marking WSU's first-ever NCAA postseason win.

Dr. Jo Stejskal

Stejskal was a professor at Winona State University from 1975-2016. During her tenure, she was heavily involved in Warrior Athletics and remains so to this day. Stejskal served as Winona State's Faculty Athletic Representative from 2006-16 and has been a member of the Warrior Club Executive Board since 1996. She previously served on the WSU Hall of Fame Committee from 1985-2016 and has been instrumental on a number of hiring search committees within the Athletic Department. Stejskal was named a Winona State University Distinguished Faculty member in 2011. She and her husband founded the Jo & Jerry Stejskal Scholarship, funding athletics as well as the nursing program at WSU.

The 2006 Men's Basketball Team

The 2006 team claimed Winona State University's first NCAA Division II National Championship in school history. The Warriors posted a 32-4 record during the 2005-06 season and laid the groundwork for a stretch of three straight years of dominant basketball.

The 2007 Men's Basketball Team

The 2007 team was the NCAA Division II National Runner-Up. The Warriors posted a 35-1 record in 2006-07 and, coupled with the previous year's team, set an NCAA DII record with 57 consecutive wins from January 13, 2006 – March 22, 2007. The Warrior's 57-game winning streak still stands today as the longest ever by a men's NCAA DII team.

The 2008 Men's Basketball Team

The 2008 team reached the NCAA Championship for the third consecutive year and won Winona State's second National Championship in three seasons. The Warriors (38-1) set an NCAA Division II record with 38 wins during the 2007-08 campaign.

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Thursday, Oct 25th



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on The Big Day will
count towards our goal!

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